Shoujo Sense

HC HANATOYUME COMICS 別冊花とゆめ

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Usotoki Rhetoric

1 Chapter 4

by Miyako Ritsu

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第四話 Chapter 4

The Fujishima Residence.
THE THEATER ISN'T FAR FROM HERE.
IT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG,
FOR FUJISHIMA-SAN AND CHIYO-SAN TO COME BACK.
UNTIL THEN,
LET'S MAKE SURE HER HUSBAND STAYS HERE.
OKAY!
THE LETTER SAID IN ONE HOUR, AND SO MUCH TIME HAS ALREADY PASSED.
I HAVE TO BRING THE MONEY TO THAT STATION.
SIR, LET ME GO WITH YOU.
BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE,

I'D FIRST LIKE TO MAKE SURE
IF CHIYO-SAN REALLY ISN'T INSIDE THAT THEATER.
HE LOOKED INSIDE THE THEATER,
AND CHIYO WASN'T THERE.
sneak
sneak
YES, BUT THE THEATER IS HUGE AND CROWDED.
MAYBE KOUKICHI-SAN JUST COULDN'T FIND HER.
I ...
I DIDN'T OVER-LOOK HER!!
YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE ...?
BUT WE JUST HEARD IT FROM KOUKICHI.

O...OF COURSE!
I CHECKED HER SEAT NUMBER!
Lies.
MAYBE SHE WAS JUST IN THE REST-ROOM!
MAYBE IF YOU KNEW WHERE EXACTLY SHE WAS SEATED...
YOU WERE SHAKEN UP AFTER WHAT JUST HAP-PENED.
Lies.
SHE REALLY WASN'T THERE.
I ASKED THE PEOPLE SEATED NEAR HER.
THEY SAID HER SEAT HAD BEEN EMPTY THE WHOLE TIME...
keep on making him say the same lies over and over again?
YOU WERE VERY THOR-OUGH.
Hmm
Hmm
SHE WASN'T ...
He already knows that Chiyo-san is still in the theater.
So why does he

I HAVE ENOUGH MONEY IN THE SAFE. I'LL TAKE IT FROM THERE.
YOU GO AND WASH YOUR FACE.
OKAY.
SFX: RATTLE ZX
I'M SORRY, BUT I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GO.
KOUKICHI, WE'RE LEAVING SOON.
TO THE BANK?
IWAI-KUN!
WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME!
IS THIS REALLY ALL RIGHT?
WE CAN'T GET HIM TO STAY...
He's leaving
NOW THAT IT HAS COME TO THIS,
They left so calmly!
SO THAT'S WHY YOU KEPT ASKING THE SAME QUESTIONS?!
I DIDN'T HAVE ANY MORE IDEAS TO GET HIM TO STAY.

I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO USE FORCE.

SFX: CLICK
カチャ
TURN
TURN

WHAT THE-?!
Ouch.
!!
SFX: THUMP

DETEC-
TIIIIVE~~~
SFX: GRIN
IWAI-
KUN...?

SFX: WHOOSH
YOU RAN AWAY SO QUICKLY,
I COULDN'T SEE WHERE YOU WENT ...
WHERE DID YOU GO?
This place is huge.
AH, DETEC-
TIVE!!
SFX: DASH

SFX: HUFF 2X
I-IS SOME-THING WRONG ?
せ"ー
せ"ー
WHAT THE HELL IS HE UP TO?!
YOU!!
Yes?
DETEC-TIVE?
だだだだ"
SFX: DASH
IWAI-KUN, WAIT!
HE SNATCHED MY 8000* YEN
Money...
AND HAS BEEN RUNNING ALL AROUND THE MANSION!!
Keep him here, he says.
Don't let him leave, he says.
WHAA?!
No, detec-tive!!
Detective! What are you doing?!

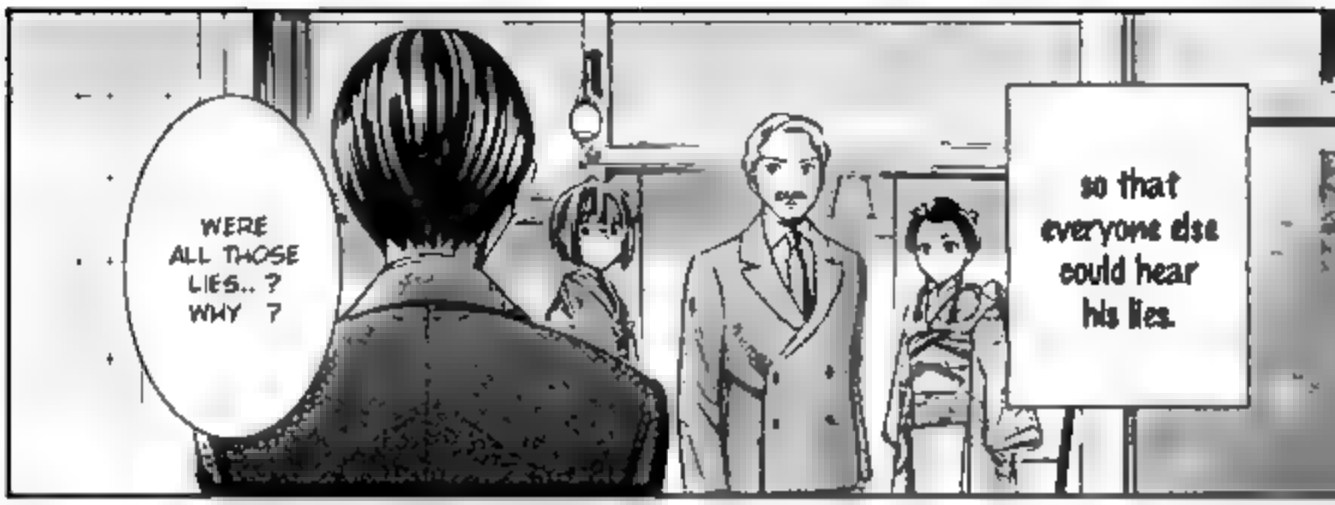
IWAI-KUN! WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME!
CHIYO WILL...
SFX: SHIIING 2X
Come ooon, try and catch me!
ひらり
ひらり
And that was all so he could steal the money?!
NO, DETECTIVE!!
SOME-THING MIGHT HAPPEN TO CHIYO-SAN...
THAT'S RIGHT!
WHAT ON EARTH IS HAPPENING HERE?!
!
I ASKED YOUR WIFE
TO GO AND GET HER.
THAT VOICE ...
...!
...
SFX: CLATTER 2X

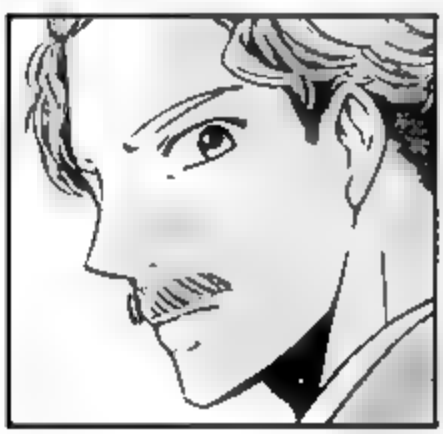
I'M RE-TURNING THIS.
SFX SLIDE
IWAI-KUN?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY..
THANK YOU FOR WAITING.

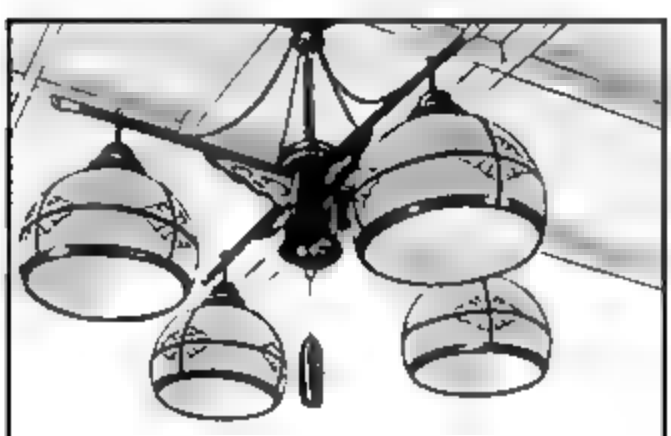
CHIYO!!
WHY DID YOU HAVE THEM BRING ME BACK HERE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PLAY?!
CHIYO YOU WEREN'T KIDNAP-PED?
DON'T YOU "CHIYO" ME!!!!
SFX: THUMP, THWACK, SMACK

IN THE THEATER THE WHOLE TIME.

KOUKICHI-SAN.
SO YOU WERE SAYING CHIYO-SAN WASN'T IN THE THEATER?
THAT YOU CHECKED HER SEAT?
AND ASKED EVERYONE NEARBY?
So
he repeatedly asked those questions.
KOU-KICHI...







SO PLEASE EXPLAIN EVERYTHING, IWAI-KUN

FIRST WAS THE CONTENT OF THE LETTER.
THERE WERE SOME THINGS THAT WERE VERY UNUSUAL ABOUT THIS KIDNAP-PING.
SO WHY WAS THE GUILTY PARTY IN SUCH A HURRY?
IT'S BECAUSE
NO ONE PAYS A RANSOM WITHOUT BEING SURE THAT THE PERSON WAS ACTUALLY KID-NAPPED
THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO OTHER WITNESSES TO CONFIRM THAT CHIYO-SAN WAS INDEED TAKEN AWAY
AND IF KOUKICHI-SAN DIDN'T HAPPEN TO BE THERE,
NO ONE WOULD KNOW WHEN THIS HOUR WOULD START FROM THE TIME CHIYO DISAP-PEARS.
HAVING A ONE-HOUR DEADLINE FOR THE RANSOM WAS WAY TOO SHORT

THEY HAD TO DO IT WHILE THE PLAY WAS STILL GOING ON.
DURING THAT TIME, CHIYO-SAN WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LEAVE HER SEAT
SO NO ONE WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM
THE FALSE TESTIMONY THAT CHIYO-SAN WAS MISSING
YOU CAN SEE FROM THE HANDWRITING THAT THESE TWO LETTERS WERE WRITTEN BY THE SAME PERSON.
SINCE THE FIRST LETTER WAS SENT DIRECTLY TO THIS HOUSE THE GUILTY PARTY OBVIOUSLY KNOWS WHERE YOUR RESIDENCE IS
IT'S A STONE'S THROW AWAY FROM THE THEATER.
THERE WAS ALSO SOMETHING OFF WITH HOW THE NOTE WAS GIVEN

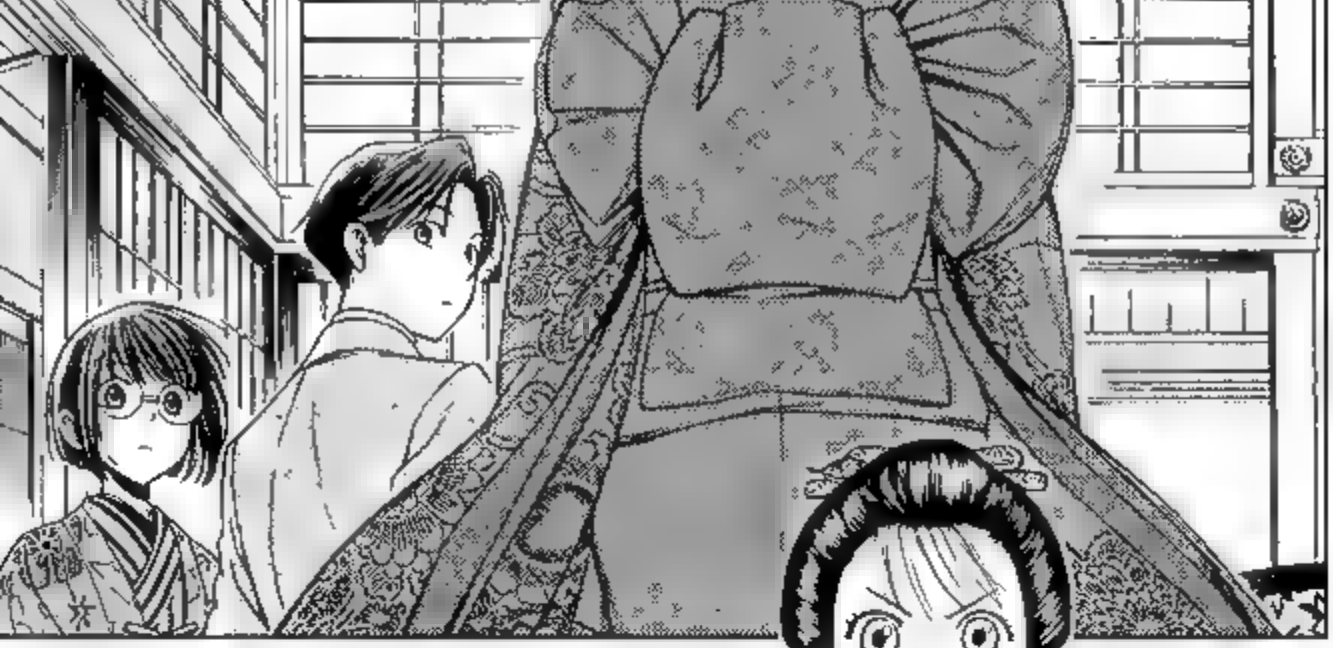
AND YET, THEY DECIDED TO HAND THIS SECOND LETTER TO KOUKICHI-SAN IN THE PARKING LOT, INSTEAD OF SENDING IT HERE DIRECTLY
THAT'S RIGHT. THEY TOOK A BIGGER RISK BY HAVING THEIR FACES EXPOSED TO KOUKICHI, WHEN THEY COULD HAVE JUST SLIPPED INSIDE THE HOUSE AND LEFT IT HERE JUST LIKE THEY DID WITH THE FIRST NOTE.
AND YET THEY DIDN'T
BECAUSE THERE HAD TO BE ONLY ONE WITNESS TO BOTH THE LETTER AND CHIYO-SAN'S DISAPPEARANCE.
"Chiyo-san was taken away."
IF KOUKICHI-SAN DIDN'T LIE ABOUT CHIYO-SAN BEING TAKEN AWAY,
SOMEONE FROM THIS HOUSE MIGHT HAVE READ THE LETTER AND GONE TO THE THEATER TO FIND HER.
WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN TERRIBLE TIMING, SINCE CHIYO-SAN WAS REALLY IN THE THEATER.
He's an amazing detective.

He was able to piece together the whole story,
just from the lies I heard.
IN OTHER WORDS, KOUKICHI-SAN LIED
ABOUT CHIYO-SAN BEING KID-NAPPED.
THAT CAN'T BE.
BUT WHAT ABOUT THOSE TWO SUSPICIOUS MEN?
KOU-KICHI-SAN,
CAN YOU RECOGNIZE THOSE TWO MEN?
I CAN'T
Yes, she's telling the truth.
I WASN'T LYING! I REALLY SAW THEM!
YOU SAW THEM DIDN'T YOU?!
RIGHT?

4

千代の家のような
お金持ちでなくとも
使用人（女中さん）が
いた家は多かったようです。当時からたとえ
娘であっても使用人
たちに雇用主（千代の
父母）と同じように
振る舞うのはよくない
とされていたので、
縁者を呼び捨てに
している千代は そう
いった礼儀を守らず
両親を悩ませる娘
です。
ここまで読んで頂き
ありがとうございました。

YOU DIDN'T WANT ANYONE TO KNOW THAT THOSE TWO MEN WERE AFTER YOU.
SO YOU ADDED FUJISHIMA-SAN'S NAME INTO THE NOTE AND SLIPPED IT INSIDE THE HOUSE
TO MAKE EVERYONE ELSE THINK THAT THIS WAS ALL ABOUT HIM.
SO THERE MUST BE A REASON YOU WENT THROUGH ALL THIS TO HIDE THEIR ACTUAL INTENTIONS
MAYBE YOU OWED THEM MONEY.
MAYBE THAT'S WHY YOU MADE UP THIS WHOLE KIDNAPPING THING, BECAUSE YOU NEEDED THE RANSOM
AM I WRONG?
YES, YOU ARE



KOUKICHI COULD HAVE JUST MISTAKEN MY SEAT NUMBER!
THE CULPRIT IS PROBABLY STILL OUT THERE!
YOUR THEORIES ARE FULL OF HOLES!
キッ
ギャン

SFX GYAN 2X

SFX WHAP

A completely unwavering voice.
Without lies.
KOUKICHI IS NOT
THAT KIND OF PERSON!
Kou-kichi-san.
Chiyo-san believed in you so much.
How could you use her for money like that?
WELL,
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT YOU BELIEVE.
MY ONLY JOB WAS TO SOLVE THE KIDNAP-PING, SO IT'S PRETTY MUCH OVER.
HE'S LYING!!
SFX CLENCH

This is for Chiyo-san.
I don't care if they end up hating me.
KOUKICHI-SAN IS LYING.
I KNOW THAT FOR A FACT.
KANOKO-KUN ?
I...
I have to prove my power somehow.
It's not like I can just say, "I have this strange power", and get her to believe me.
HOW...
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW ...?

Yep
Yep
HOW I KNEW THAT KOUKICHI-SAN WAS LYING!!
YOU ALSO FOUND OUT
I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN YOU WERE A BRILLIANT ASSISTANT!
CAN HEAAAA-
DON'T DIVULGE YOUR SECRET.
Detec-tive...!!
TELL ME!!
You wouldn't believe me anyway!
HMMMM... ——?? I DON'T WANNA TELL——
SO HOW?
HOW DID YOU KNOW?

SFX EEEK
I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE.
IT'S QUITE SIMPLE.
EVERY TIME KOU-KICHI-SAN IS LYING,
HE GLANCES 45 DEGREES TO THE RIGHT!
Of course.

KOU-KICHI,
But
He's bluffing.
They wouldn't know if it's true or not since the questioning is over!!
Shrewd move!!
I DIDN'T WANT TO REVEAL IT AT FIRST,
BECAUSE ONCE HE FINDS OUT WHAT MY METHODS ARE, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO REPLY NATURALLY ANYMORE
the events that the detective was able to deduce
and his explanation for Kouki-chi's lies
I DON'T BELIEVE HE'S LYING.
IWAI-KUN'S EXPLANA-TION SEEMS TO BE THE MOST LOGICAL
YES.
EVERY-THING
were so easy to believe.

Six months ago,
he met an old friend around town
who swindled him for his money and left him in huge debt.
He used his salary and the rest of his savings to pay back part of his debt.
DID YOU SEE THOSE TWO MEN AT THE FRONT GATE?
but six days ago,
his debtors came to this house to get their money.
I FELT SO TORMENTED BY THAT LINGERING DEBT
AND THE FACT THAT THEY MIGHT CAUSE A SCENE AT THIS HOUSE
THAT I ENDED UP COMING UP WITH THAT FOOLISH PLAN.
IS AS IWAI-SAN SAID.
And they were completely laid bare by his bluff.

I WAS PLANNING TO STEAL THE
I SLIPPED THAT NIGHT BY A FEW DAYS AGO
I HIT MYSELF ON THE HEAD
AND WHEN CAN I SAW ENTERED THE THEATER TODAY
I MADE THE EXCUSE OF NOT BEING PAID BY THE BOSS
IN THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF THE STATION
MY EGO WOULDN'T LET ME CONFESS TO YOU THAT I HAD A PROBLEM WITH MONEY
SO I CAME UP WITH THAT COWARDLY LIE.
I AM SO SORRY
IT WAS AN HONOR

TO HAVE SERVED YOU FOR ALL THESE YEARS
...I HAVE THOUGHT OF YOU AS FAMILY FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS
DAD! KOU-KICHI...
YES. WHAT YOU DID WAS A STUPID THING
PLEASE, DEAR.
KOU-KICHI.

I...
I CAN'T, SIR! I CAN'T ACCEPT SUCH KINDNESS...
IF YOU HAD JUST TOLD US FROM THE BEGINNING,
WE COULD HAVE RESOLVED THIS SOONER.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST TAKE IT?
IWAI-KUN
KOU-KICHI-SAN, AS A DRIVER,
COULD HAVE JUST AS EASILY KIDNAPPED CHIYO-SAN FOR REAL.
THERE WERE SO MANY EASIER WAYS TO TAKE THE RANSOM.
AND YET KOUKICHI-SAN WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO CHOOSE A PLAN THAT WOULDN'T HURT CHIYO-SAN.
THERE JUST HAPPENED TO BE A DETECTIVE WHO SAW THROUGH HIS PLANS.

THAT YOU
ARE THE KIND OF PERSON WHO WILL NEVER DO THIS KIND OF THING AGAIN
EVERY-ONE IN TH S HOUSE KNOWS
HE UNNECES-SARILY HURT HIMSELF,
AND EVEN MORE FOOLISHLY, ASKED FOR ONLY THE EXACT AMOUNT HE NEEDED TO PAY OFF HIS DEBTS
Idiot
Total Idiot
YOU REALLY HAVE EXCEL-LENT INSIGHT,
DETECTIVE.

Kou-kichi-san's words

I WILL PAY FOR THIS KINDNESS FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

aren't lies anymore.
THANK YOU!
SFX SLAP
THAT IS ABSOLUTELY AMAZING!!

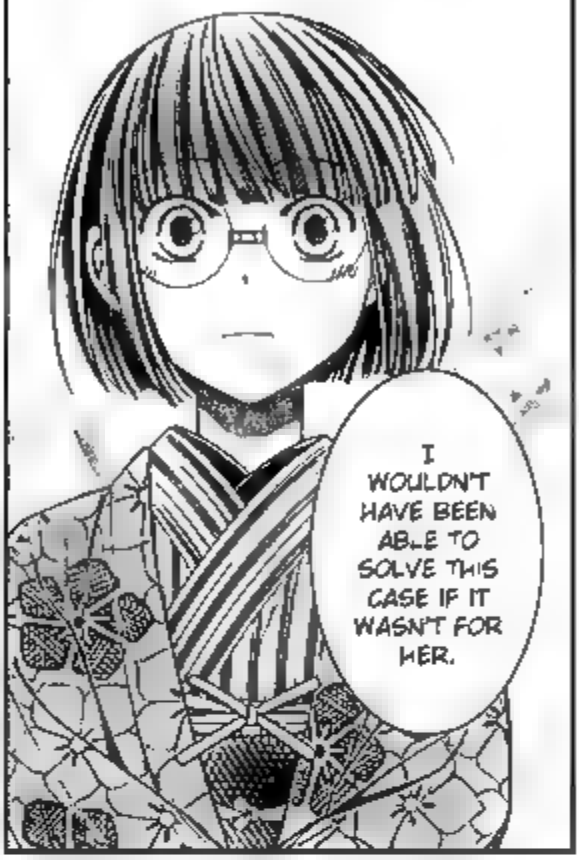
SFX SHING
ぼっ
A TIMELESS STYLE OF CLOTHING THAT BUCKS MATERIALISTIC TRENDS
A FRESH NEW HAIRSTYLE NOT BOUND BY THE NORMS OF THE TIME
NOW THIS IS A REAL DETECTIVE!!
grab
WHAT!
SOUMA-SAMA...<3
IWAI

Gya!
MONEY.
CHIYO ...
YOU HAVE AMAZING DETECTIVE INSTINCTS!
YOU SOLVE CASES JUST LIKE DETECTIVE MAYUME HIDEYOSHI.
HOW CAN I THANK YOU?!
Chiyo-san is acting weird!!
Whoa, she's not lying.

Please continue taking care of her
WHO HAS BEEN WITH CHIYO FOR THESE PAST SEVEN YEARS
YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE
I WANT TO SHOW HIM MY GRATITUDE STRAIGHT FROM ME !!
NOOO!!
I'm sorry, Iwai-kun
Detective
Pulling
LET HIM GO. I'LL BE THE ONE TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE

TO KANOKO-SAN?
IF YOU'RE GOING TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE,
YOU SHOULD DO IT TO KANOKO-KUN.
BY THE WAY,
CHIYO-SAN,

Stare
...
BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN HER DO ANY-THING AT ALL.


I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SOLVE THIS CASE IF IT WASN'T FOR HER.

SO, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANT?
I DON'T REALLY

BUT BECAUSE SOUMA-SAMA SAYS SO,
WE CAN GET ALONG WELL TOGETHER AS HIS FANS!!
!?

IF ANYONE YOU KNOW NEEDS HELP,
PLEASE TELL THEM THAT IWAI SOUMA FROM THE TOWN TSUKUMOYA
IS A BRILLIANT DETECTIVE WHO WILL BE GLAD TO ASSIST THEM.

For once in my life, I'd like to be able to say, "Please wait in line"!!
That's right.
Err
The only thing I want is to be useful to him as his assistant.
UMM
WELL,
UM,

I completed my first job as a detective's assistant.
And with that,
AH, I JUST KNEW
THAT YOU WERE A VERY PRUDENT PERSON.
I'M SO GLAD
THAT KOU-KICHI-SAN WASN'T FIRED
DETEC-TIVE?
I DIDN'T EVEN NEED TO RELY ON MY POWER THAT MUCH!
OH, AND YOU WERE REALLY AMAZ-ING!!
FOR ALMOST BLURTING OUT THAT I CAN HEAR LIES.
AND I'M SORRY

SFX TW RL
KANOKO-KUN!!
YEAH?
IT'S JUST AS I SAID.
?
ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?
ON ENVELOPE PAYMENT
WITH YOUR ABILITY AND MY TALENT TO TRICK PEOPLE...
I WAS RIGHT...
He's actually admit-ting to tricking people!
Your power can help a lot of people.
He was the only one who has said anything like that.
YOUR POWERS ARE AMAZING.

ON ENVELOPE. PAYMENT
WE CAN FINALLY SAVE SOME MONEY!
謝礼
Huh?
Thank goodness didn't eat those matsutake mushrooms in the produce basket
DETEC-
What about helping other people?!
The God of mush rooms is watching over us
Ah, well.
MONEY! MONEY!
I WAS BLES-SED WITH MONEY!
ISN'T IT GREAT DETECTIVE?
He just solved a case.
He's happy.
It's fine.
IT'S LIKE A DREAM! I COULD JUST BE DREAM-ING!
WITH THIS,
IT'S NOT A DREAM —

I CAN FINALLY PAY FOR MY FOOD AT KURATA!
WE CAN TAKE THE CHESTNUTS WE RECEIVED FROM MY LANDLORD AND HAVE THEM MAKE US CHESTNUT RICE!
You can have as many servings as you want
groooW!
This is soooo great!!
I hope
I was at least useful to him.
Chestnut rice
Chestnut rice
Two days later.
KANOKO-CHAN!

MAMA TOLD ME TO BRING THIS TO YOU BECAUSE THE DETECTIVE IS FEATURED HERE
catch meee
Try and
YEAH. HE WAS MOVING HIS BODY IN STRANGE WAYS.
And then he danced around
HE WAS DANCING BECAUSE HE GOT SOME MONEY, WASN'T HE..
GOOD MORNING, TARO-CHAN.
ARE HIS MUSCLES STIL.. SORE?
THE NEWS-PAPER?
YOU'RE FEATURED IN THE NEWSPA-PER!
SFX WEAK
WHAT IS IT, KANOKO ...
DETEC-TIVE,
DETEC-TIVE!
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO WAL..OW IN PAIN!

Reader's Plaza

THIS IS GREAT EXPOSURE!!

by a detective from Tsukumoya, Iwai Souma. What a graceful figure! Such a sharp mind! I've become such a fan! A total professional, he did such a thorough and complete job without asking for anything extra.

SFX: WAAI WAAAI
わい
わい
HELLO, I'M FROM BANDOYA RESTAU-RANT. I'VE COME TO SETTLE YOUR BILL!
SOU-CHAN, I HEARD YOU GOT PAID?!
THAT MEANS YOU'RE GONNA PAY YOUR BILLS, RIGHT?!
WILL YOU GIVE BACK THE MONEY I LENT YOU NOW?
HERE'S YOUR OUT-STANDING CHECK!
坂東屋
坂東屋

YES.

The money we earned disap-peared like a dream.
PLEASE WAIT IN LINE...
わい
わい
澤井靴店
SFX: WAI WAI

作画協力
23様
◆
担当様・前担当様はじめ編集部の皆様
◆
この本の制作・販売に携わってくださった皆様
◆
家族・友人
◆
読んでくださった皆様

ありがとうございました。

2013年　5月　都戸利津

花とゆめCOMICS
嘘解きレトリック①

デジタル版

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